

1894-99. Large Roman Surcharges.The History of the Issue.

Somewhere about June, 1894, 1 Att and 2 Att stamps began to run short, and an order was consequently given to the Vacharindr Printing Office to surcharge the 64 Att stamp with these values. A form was accordingly prepared to overprint 120 stamps (a complete sheet) at once, with both English and Siamese inscriptions, reading 1 Att. It is not yet quite certain whether this original Setting was A1 or A2, but the scanty evidence seems to point to the former as the most likely. As soon as the necessary number of sheets had been surcharged, the inscriptions were altered to read 2 Att, and the two values were delivered to the Post-Office together, on July 12th, 1894.

1 Att, Setting A1.2 Att, Setting A.

Number printed 30,000 (250 sheets) - - Number printed 60,000 (500 sheets)

The English inscription measures from 13½ mm. to 17 mm. in length in the 1 Att, Setting A1, with an average length of 15½ mm., while in Setting A2 the length is never less than 16 mm., so that in most cases it can be easily determined from which Setting blocks or even individual stamps come. Another difference is that the ink is usually thinner and the printing neater in Setting A2 than in the other.

The 2 Att stamp, Setting A, can be distinguished from